

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-12, and 14 are pending in the application with claims 1 and 10 amended herein and claims 15-20 cancelled herein.

Applicant expresses appreciation for the telephone interview between Examiner Ann Schillinger and Applicant's attorney, James Lake, on December 16, 2008. Applicant's understanding is the parties reached agreement that the amendment herein to claims 1 and 10 overcomes all grounds for rejection.

Claims 15, 16, and 18 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as lacking a written description. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 10-12, 14, and 18 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as lacking antecedent basis. The subject matter of previous claims 15 and 18 is incorporated into claims 1 and 10, respectively. Claim 10 is further amended herein to correct the antecedent basis. In the interview, Applicant referred to remarks made in the Response to April 22, 2008 Office Action regarding support in the specification and/or known art (ordinary meanings in dictionaries) for the limitations of amended claims 1 and 10.

Claims 1-7, 9-11, and 14-18 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silvestrini (EP 0 331 345) in view of Gabbay (US 6,869,444). In the interview, Applicant referred to remarks made in the Response to April 22, 2008 Office Action regarding the limitations of amended claims 1 and 10, namely, knitted wire having intermeshing loops, which distinguish the cited combination.

Applicant herein establishes adequate reasons supporting patentability of claims 1-7, 9-12, and 14 and requests allowance of all pending claims in the next Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

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